

IN THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A configurable speech recognizer comprising:
 - a geographic configuration unit to receive roaming indications from a cellular telephone and to process said indications to determine a location associated with said telephone;
 - a recognition manager to select associated search information as a function of said location; and
 - a speech recognition unit to utilize said selected associated search information when recognizing at least one incoming speech signal, the speech recognition unit utilizing the associated search information as hard constraints.
2. Cancelled
3. (Previously Presented) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said roaming indications comprise an indication of type of operator, wherein said operator type is one of the following: cellular and landline operator.
4. (Previously Presented) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said roaming indications comprise operator identification numbers.
5. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said location is a country.
6. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said selector selects said associated search information as a function also of operator identification.

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7. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said speech recognition unit comprises a speech dialer.

8. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said speech recognition unit comprises a geographically affected speech recognition unit.

9. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said associated search information comprises a knowledge base and a reference library.

10. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said associated search information comprises a phone numbering plan.

11. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said associated search information comprises dialect information.

12. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said associated search information comprises expected pronunciations.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 1 and wherein said speech recognition unit utilizes said associated search information as soft constraints.

15. (Currently Amended) A configurable speech dialer comprising:

a speech dialer to recognize speech; and

a geographic configuration unit to receive roaming indications from a cellular telephone and to provide said speech dialer with a location associated with said telephone,

said speech dialer to recognize said speech at least according to the numbering plan of said location, the speech recognition unit utilizing

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the numbering plan and location as hard constraints for recognizing a telephone number defined by said speech.

16. (Original) The dialer according to claim 15 and wherein said roaming indications comprise operator identification numbers.

17. (Original) The dialer according to claim 15 and wherein said location is a country.

18. (Original) The dialer according to claim 16 and wherein said numbering plan comprises an operator specific numbering plan.

19. (Original) The dialer according to claim 15 and wherein said speech dialer utilizes said numbering plan as hard constraints.

20. (Original) The dialer according to claim 15 and wherein said speech dialer utilizes said numbering plan as soft constraints.

21. (Currently Amended) A configurable speech recognizer comprising:
a geographic configuration unit to process roaming indications from a cellular telephone; and
a speech recognition unit to limit a recognition search space as a function of said roaming indications, the speech recognition unit utilizing the roaming indications as hard constraints for recognizing a telephone number defined by said speech.

22. Cancelled

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23. (Previously Presented) The recognizer according to claim 21 and wherein said roaming indications comprise an indication of type of operator, wherein said operator type is one of the following: cellular and landline operator.

24. (Previously Presented) The recognizer according to claim 21 and wherein said roaming indications comprise operator identification numbers.

25. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 21 and wherein said location is a country.

26. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 21 and wherein said speech recognition unit comprises a speech dialer.

27. (Original) The recognizer according to claim 21 and wherein said speech recognition unit comprises a geographically affected speech recognition unit.

28. (Currently Amended) A speech recognition method comprising:

determining a location associated with a cellular telephone from roaming indications provided by said cellular telephone;

selecting associated search information as a function of said location; and

utilizing said selected associated search information when recognizing at least one incoming speech signal, further comprising utilizing the associated search information as a hard constraint for recognizing a telephone number defined by the incoming speech signal.

29. Cancelled

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30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said roaming indications comprise an indication of type of operator, wherein said operator type is one of the following: cellular and landline operator.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said roaming indications comprise operator identification numbers.

32. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said location is a country.

33. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and also comprising selecting said associated search information as a function also of operator identification.

34. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said associated search information comprises a knowledge base and a reference library.

35. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said associated search information comprises a phone numbering plan.

36. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said associated search information comprises dialect information.

37. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said associated search information comprises expected pronunciations.

38. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said recognizing comprises utilizing said associated search information as hard constraints.

39. (Original) The method according to claim 28 and wherein said recognizing comprises utilizing said associated search information as soft constraints.

40. (Currently Amended) A speech dialing method comprising:

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determining a location associated with a cellular telephone from roaming indications provided by said cellular telephone;

recognizing a spoken phone number at least according to the numbering plan of said location, further comprising utilizing the determined location as a hard constraint for recognizing the spoken phone number defined by the incoming speech signal; and

dialing said phone number.

41. (Original) The method according to claim 40 and wherein said roaming indications comprise operator identification numbers.

42. (Original) The method according to claim 40 and wherein said location is a country.

43. (Original) The method according to claim 41 and wherein said numbering plan comprises an operator specific numbering plan.

44. (Currently Amended) A speech recognition method comprising:

processing roaming indications from a cellular telephone further comprising utilizing the roaming indications as hard constraints for recognizing a telephone number defined by an incoming speech signal from the cellular telephone; and

limiting a recognition search space as a function of the roaming indications ~~said geographic indications~~.

45. Cancelled

46. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44 and wherein said roaming indications comprise an indication of type of operator, wherein said operator type is one of the following: cellular and landline operator.

47. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44 and wherein said roaming indications comprise operator identification numbers.

48. (Original) The method according to claim 44 and wherein said location is a country.

49. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the associated search information identifies hard and soft constraints and the speech recognition unit employs the identified hard constraints for recognizing spoken telephone digits in the incoming speech signal.

50. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the speech recognition unit:
determines, based on the determined location, an expected speech pattern indicative of grouping of digits and placement of pauses in the incoming speech signal; and
derives the soft constraints limiting the expected entered telephone number.

51. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the speech recognition unit applies the identified hard constraints to spoken digit positions in the incoming speech signal to constrain the received spoken telephone digits.

52. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the speech recognition unit:
identifies a numbering plan based on the location; and
modifies an expected grammar according to the hard constraints defined by the numbering plan.